



DOT Transportation Security Administration's Initiatives on Employee & Passenger Identification and Air Terminal Surveillance

Biometrics Consortium Conference
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Pre-9/11 FAA Activities Related to Biometrics



Survey of US Airports Usage of Biometrics

Guidebook for Implementation of Biometrics in Domestic Airports

Operational evaluation of biometrics for employee access control

- Fingerprint reader
- Hand geometry
- Face recognition

(Note: all of these activities conducted by National Safe Skies Alliance, Knoxville TN)



Post 9/11 DOT Activities Related to Biometrics

Formed the “Aviation Security Biometrics Working Group
Active October 4 – November 16, 2001
Steering Committee Report published 11/17/01
Report available at “www.biometricscatalog.org/asbwg”

Aviation and Transportation Security Act, PL 107-71, 11/17/01



TSA “Go Teams” #7=Biometrics, #36/51=Smart Cards/Architecture

Participant in INCITS Technical Committee M1





Focus Areas - ASBWG

- 1. Transportation Employees (Federal and others)**
 - Primarily Verification for access control
 - Identification at enrollment
- 2. Surveillance - Terrorist and/or criminal watch lists**
 - Identification at chokepoints, wide area?
- 3. Passengers**
 - “Trusted Passenger” concept in PL 107-71, ASTA
 - Primarily Verification for access control
 - Identification at enrollment
- 4. Pilots, Flight Crew, Air Traffic Controllers**
 - Initial Verification, periodic re-verification





Aviation and Transportation Security Act PL 107-71

- Specific requirement to conduct Pilot Projects in at least 20 US airports
- Focus on “new and emerging technologies” that may include biometrics
- Appropriation to DOT (within the DOD appropriations act) ceiling of \$23M for “short term demonstrations and pilots”





Aviation and Transportation Security Act PL 107-71

- Other required actions related to Biometrics
 - Review of biometrics effectiveness *currently in use* in US airports (SFO)
 - Issue grants in conjunction with DARPA, including biometrics for “identification and threat assessment” (authorized \$20M, not yet appropriated)





Aviation and Transportation Security Act PL 107-71

- Other potential initiatives related to biometrics:
 - Trusted Passenger (TSA *establish requirements* for voluntary travel ID)
 - Develop Operational (performance) standards – **“establish acceptable levels of performance for aviation security, including ... access control,”**
 - Identification of individuals that may endanger flight safety
(*“voice stress analysis, biometrics or other technologies...”*)
 - Pilot’s licenses with biometric imprint



Go Team # 9 - Biometrics



- Convened December 01 – January 02
- Charge was to complete analysis in 45 days:
 - provide a framework for biometrics’ **systems architecture** and a set of **principles**
 - architecture and principles will **guide the evaluation** of specific technology
 - inventory the **state-of-the-art** in biometric technology
 - determine the Department’s **association with other efforts** in the uses of biometric technology
 - develop **process recommendations** that ensure the Department reviews the broadest possible array of available technologies
 - strives for a complete **open systems** approach to the involvement of new technologies
 - enables **integration** of TSA biometrics with Federal, State, and local law enforcement systems
- Report Completed - week of January 21, 2002



Go Team # 9 - Biometrics

Recommendations to TSA

- Pursue application of Biometrics in all Focus Areas
- Use 3-step evaluation process: Technical, Scenario, Operational
- Establish a process for product performance verification, approved products list
- Coordinate within Government and with industry to:
 - Conduct unbiased evaluations periodically
 - Establish acceptable national standards
 - Encourage continued technology development



Questions?

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